

you wrote for the publication called 'Resurgent.' You wrote, "Muslims do not simply have a deficient theology. They do not know God because they have rejected Jesus Christ, His Son, and they stand condemned."

Senator SANDERS then went on and said: "Do you believe that statement is Islamophobic?"

Mr. Vought replied: "Absolutely not, Senator. I am a Christian, and I believe in a Christian set of principles based on my faith. That post, as I stated in the questionnaire to this committee, was to defend my alma mater, Wheaton College, a Christian school that has a statement of faith that includes the centrality of Jesus Christ for salvation, and . . ."

Senator SANDERS interrupts: "I apologize. Forgive me, we just don't have a lot of time. Do you believe people in the Muslim religion stand condemned? Is that your view?"

Mr. Vought replied: "Again, Senator, I am a Christian, and I wrote that piece in accordance with the statement of faith at Wheaton College."

Senator SANDERS said: "I understand that. I don't know how many Muslims there are in America. Maybe a couple million. Are you suggesting that all those people stand condemned? What about Jew? Do they stand condemned, too?"

Mr. Vought replied: "Senator, I'm a Christian . . ."

Senator SANDERS at this point is shouting: "I understand you are a Christian, but this country are made of people who are not just—I understand that Christianity is the majority religion, but there are other people of different religions in this country and around the world. In your judgment, do you think that people who are not Christians are going to be condemned?"

Mr. Vought replied: "Thank you for probing on that question. As a Christian, I believe that all individuals are made in the image of God and are worthy of dignity and respect regardless of their religious beliefs. I believe that, as a Christian, that is how I should treat all individuals . . ."

Senator SANDERS responded: "You think your statement that you put into that publication, they do not know God because they rejected Jesus Christ, His Son, and they stand condemned, do you think that is respectful of other religions?"

Mr. Vought said: "Senator, I wrote a post based on being a Christian and attending a Christian school that has a statement of faith that speaks clearly in regard to the centrality of Jesus Christ in salvation."

Senator SANDERS said: "I would simply say, Mr. Chairman, that this nominee is really not someone who this country is supposed to be about."

And that came from—the quotes came from an article in the National Review quoting from the hearing itself.

That is why I say, Mr. Speaker, this may be the low point for hope in Amer-

ica when a sitting Senator condemns someone who is simply quoting from the teachings of Jesus, teachings that even a descendant of Mohammed knew was helpful in creating a great nation.

We have come a long way from the hope that abounded within the founders of this country, within the hope of those who fought to bring about the end of the horrendous, hideous practice of slavery, where human beings treated brother and sister human beings with chains in bondage.

And now we come to a point that I feared—and I brought it up when hate crime legislation was discussed—that the day would come when the religion of the world based on the love of God and the love of Jesus Christ would be twisted to the point that it would be called hateful.

Jesus said: "I am the way, the truth, and the life. No one comes to the Father except through me."

He is either a liar or a lunatic or he is exactly who he said he was. But that is not hateful. It is not hateful to believe in a religion where you want to share the joy and the hope that comes from it.

One of the results, maybe it is a—not a result, but more of an unfortunate situation that exists. When you take away the hope of the Christian religion, condemn people for believing Jesus is the hope, as he said he was, or as our friend, the late Chuck Colson, pointed out: "Our hope is not going to arrive on Air Force One."

He believed the hope was in Jesus.

And now we have someone who is declared totally inappropriate to be a government official because he believes the teachings of Jesus. It is not hateful to believe the teachings of Jesus. In fact, someone—I know I have Jewish friends who have said: I thought Christians blamed Jews for killing Jesus.

Well, the truth is that anyone who is a true Christian, if they blame Jews or anyone else for the death of Jesus, they are not a Christian. They don't understand the belief that Jesus died for me and for anyone who has done wrong in this life.

□ 1815

So it is a sad day, it is a sad week, and it is a sad month to look how far we have come from the hope that was once so prevalent. Now we are in a society where suicide is rampant—144 drug overdoses a day, and that doesn't count all of the suicides by veterans and Active Duty military.

Christianity is a religion of love. May God grant wisdom to any Senator who thinks otherwise.

Mr. Speaker, I yield back the balance of my time.

COMMUNICATION FROM THE CLERK OF THE HOUSE

The SPEAKER pro tempore laid before the House the following communication from the Clerk of the House of Representatives:

OFFICE OF THE CLERK,
HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES,
Washington, DC, June 27, 2017.

Hon. PAUL D. RYAN,
Speaker, House of Representatives,
Washington, DC.

DEAR MR. SPEAKER: Under Clause 2(g) of Rule II of the Rules of the U.S. House of Representatives, I herewith designate Mr. Robert Reeves Deputy Clerk to sign any and all papers and do all other acts for me under the name of the Clerk of the House which they would be authorized to do by virtue of this designation, except such as are provided by statute, in case of my temporary absence or disability.

This designation shall remain in effect for the 115th Congress or until modified by me.

With best wishes, I am,

Sincerely,

KAREN L. HAAS,
Clerk of the House.

LEAVE OF ABSENCE

By unanimous consent, leave of absence was granted to:

Mr. STIVERS (at the request of Mr. MCCARTHY) for today through June 29 on account of his duties with the Ohio National Guard.

ADJOURNMENT

Mr. GOHMERT. Mr. Speaker, I move that the House do now adjourn.

The motion was agreed to; accordingly (at 6 o'clock and 16 minutes p.m.), under its previous order, the House adjourned until tomorrow, Wednesday, June 28, 2017, at 10 a.m. for morning-hour debate.

EXECUTIVE COMMUNICATIONS, ETC.

Under clause 2 of rule XIV, executive communications were taken from the Speaker's table and referred as follows:

1803. A letter from the Acting Under Secretary, Acquisition, Technology, and Logistics, Department of Defense, transmitting the Department's Selected Acquisition Reports for the Chemical Demilitarization-Assembled Chemical Weapons Alternatives and Ballistic Missile Defense System programs, pursuant to 10 U.S.C. 2432(b)(1); Public Law 97-252, Sec. 1107(a)(1); (96 Stat. 740); to the Committee on Armed Services.

1804. A letter from the Acting Assistant Secretary for Legislative Affairs, Department of Defense, transmitting an additional legislative proposal for the proposed legislation titled the "National Defense Authorization Act for Fiscal Year 2018"; jointly to the Committees on Armed Services, Natural Resources, and the Judiciary.

REPORTS OF COMMITTEES ON PUBLIC BILLS AND RESOLUTIONS

Under clause 2 of rule XIII, reports of committees were delivered to the Clerk for printing and reference to the proper calendar, as follows:

Mr. COLLINS of Georgia: Committee on Rules. House Resolution 414. Resolution providing for consideration of the bill (H.R. 3003) to amend the Immigration and Nationality Act to modify provisions relating to assistance by States, and political subdivision of States, in the enforcement of Federal immigration laws, and for other purposes (Rept. 115-195). Referred to the House Calendar.

Mr. SESSIONS: Committee on Rules. House Resolution 415. Resolution providing for consideration of the bill (H.R. 3004) to amend section 276 of the Immigration and Nationality Act relating to reentry of removed aliens, and providing for proceedings during the period from July 3, 2017, through July 10, 2017 (Rept. 115-196). Referred to the House Calendar.

PUBLIC BILLS AND RESOLUTIONS

Under clause 2 of rule XII, public bills and resolutions of the following titles were introduced and severally referred, as follows:

By Ms. SHEA-PORTER (for herself and Ms. ROSEN):

H.R. 3064. A bill to develop an anticorruption strategy, establish Offices for Anticorruption in the Department of Defense, Department of State, and United States Agency for International Development, and for other purposes; to the Committee on Foreign Affairs, and in addition to the Committee on Armed Services, for a period to be subsequently determined by the Speaker, in each case for consideration of such provisions as fall within the jurisdiction of the committee concerned.

By Ms. SHEA-PORTER:

H.R. 3065. A bill to direct the Comptroller General of the United States to submit to Congress a report on the national security implications of the outsourcing of industrial and manufacturing capacities to locations outside the United States; to the Committee on Armed Services.

By Ms. SHEA-PORTER:

H.R. 3066. A bill to direct the Secretary of Defense to carry out a program to protect United States students against foreign agents; to the Committee on Armed Services, and in addition to the Committee on Intelligence (Permanent Select), for a period to be subsequently determined by the Speaker, in each case for consideration of such provisions as fall within the jurisdiction of the committee concerned.

By Ms. CLARK of Massachusetts (for herself, Mrs. BROOKS of Indiana, and Mr. MEEHAN):

H.R. 3067. A bill to amend title 18, United States Code, to establish certain criminal violations for various aspects of harassment using the interstate telecommunications system, and for other purposes; to the Committee on the Judiciary.

By Mr. KELLY of Pennsylvania (for himself and Mr. KIND):

H.R. 3068. A bill to amend the Internal Revenue Code of 1986 to enhance the research credit for domestic manufacturers; to the Committee on Ways and Means.

By Mrs. BUSTOS (for herself, Mr. WESTERMAN, Mr. LOEBSACK, and Mr. TONKO):

H.R. 3069. A bill to provide for guidance relating to the management of Department of Defense arsenals to ensure affordability and competence in critical capabilities areas, and for other purposes; to the Committee on Armed Services.

By Mr. MCHENRY (for himself and Mr. FOSTER):

H.R. 3070. A bill to amend the Federal Deposit Insurance Act to clarify the definition of a deposit broker, and for other purposes; to the Committee on Financial Services.

By Mr. CARTER of Georgia (for himself, Mr. HIMES, and Mr. GROTHMAN):

H.R. 3071. A bill to require executive agencies to consider equipment rental in any cost-effectiveness analysis for equipment acquisition, and for other purposes; to the Committee on Oversight and Government Reform.

By Mr. CLAY (for himself and Mr. STIVERS):

H.R. 3072. A bill to increase from \$10,000,000,000 to \$50,000,000,000 the threshold figure at which regulated depository institutions are subject to direct examination and reporting requirements of the Bureau of Consumer Financial Protection, and for other purposes; to the Committee on Financial Services.

By Mr. CURBELO of Florida (for himself, Mrs. NAPOLITANO, Mr. GRIJALVA, Mr. JOYCE of Ohio, Mr. SWALWELL of California, Mr. SUOZZI, Mr. O'ROURKE, Ms. WILSON of Florida, Ms. ROS-LEHTINEN, and Mr. BLUMENAUER):

H.R. 3073. A bill to provide for the issuance of a Mental Health Awareness Semipostal Stamp; to the Committee on Oversight and Government Reform, and in addition to the Committee on Energy and Commerce, for a period to be subsequently determined by the Speaker, in each case for consideration of such provisions as fall within the jurisdiction of the committee concerned.

By Mr. ELLISON:

H.R. 3074. A bill to reclassify certain low-level felonies as misdemeanors, to eliminate the increased penalties for cocaine offenses where the cocaine involved is cocaine base, to reinvest in our communities, and for other purposes; to the Committee on the Judiciary, and in addition to the Committees on Energy and Commerce, and Education and the Workforce, for a period to be subsequently determined by the Speaker, in each case for consideration of such provisions as fall within the jurisdiction of the committee concerned.

By Mr. GALLEG0 (for himself, Mr. O'HALLERAN, and Ms. ROSEN):

H.R. 3075. A bill to amend title 37, United States Code, to increase adjustments of monthly basic pay for members of the uniformed services, and for other purposes; to the Committee on Armed Services.

By Mr. GRAVES of Louisiana (for himself and Mr. KENNEDY):

H.R. 3076. A bill to amend section 552a of title 5, United States Code (commonly referred to as the Privacy Act) to require agencies to accept electronic release forms, and for other purposes; to the Committee on Oversight and Government Reform.

By Mr. SAM JOHNSON of Texas (for himself and Mrs. WALORSKI):

H.R. 3077. A bill to amend title II of the Social Security Act to repeal the retirement earnings test, and for other purposes; to the Committee on Ways and Means.

By Mr. KIHUEN (for himself, Mr. MOULTON, Mr. NADLER, Ms. ROSEN, Mr. CICILLINE, Mr. LAMBORN, Mr. WEBER of Texas, and Mr. GOTTHEIMER):

H.R. 3078. A bill to extend quarterly reports on confirmed ballistic missile launches from Iran and imposition of sanctions in connection with those launches; to the Committee on Intelligence (Permanent Select), and in addition to the Committee on Foreign Affairs, for a period to be subsequently determined by the Speaker, in each case for consideration of such provisions as fall within the jurisdiction of the committee concerned.

By Ms. LEE (for herself, Mr. BURGESS, Ms. CLARKE of New York, Mr. CONYERS, Mr. ELLISON, Mr. EVANS, Mr. GRIJALVA, Ms. NORTON, Mr. HUFFMAN, Ms. JACKSON LEE, Ms. JAYAPAL, Ms. KELLY of Illinois, Mr. MCGOVERN, Ms. MOORE, Mr. MOULTON, Mr. NOLAN, Mr. POCAN, Mr. POLIS, Mr. RASKIN, Ms. SCHAKOWSKY, Mr. BIGGS, Mr. BLUMENAUER, Mr. GOSAR, Mr. LANCE, Mr. LABRADOR, Mr. MASSIE, Mr. JONES,

Mr. STIVERS, Mrs. WATSON COLEMAN, Mr. WELCH, Mr. COHEN, Mr. KHANNA, Mr. DESAULNIER, and Mr. AMASH):

H.R. 3079. A bill to reduce by one-half of one percent the discretionary budget authority of the Department of Defense for a fiscal year if the financial statement of the Department of Defense for the previous fiscal year does not receive a qualified or unqualified audit opinion by an external independent auditor, and for other purposes; to the Committee on Armed Services.

By Mr. LOEBSACK (for himself and Mrs. BUSTOS):

H.R. 3080. A bill to provide installation reutilization authority for arsenals, depots, and plants; to the Committee on Armed Services.

By Ms. MICHELLE LUJAN GRISHAM of New Mexico (for herself and Ms. SHEA-PORTER):

H.R. 3081. A bill to amend title II of the Social Security Act to eliminate the five-month waiting period in the disability insurance program, and for other purposes; to the Committee on Ways and Means.

By Ms. MENG:

H.R. 3082. A bill to amend the Higher Education Act of 1965 to require the Secretary of Education to translate the FAFSA into foreign languages, and for other purposes; to the Committee on Education and the Workforce.

By Mr. MOONEY of West Virginia (for himself, Ms. CLARK of Massachusetts, Mr. MACARTHUR, Mr. LANGEVIN, Mr. BLUM, and Mr. BERA):

H.R. 3083. A bill to amend the Higher Education Act of 1965 to provide for the preparation of career and technical education teachers; to the Committee on Education and the Workforce.

By Mr. PAULSEN (for himself and Mr. CROWLEY):

H.R. 3084. A bill to amend the Internal Revenue Code of 1986 to modify the tax treatment of certain equity grants; to the Committee on Ways and Means.

By Mr. PEARCE (for himself, Mr. MCKINLEY, Ms. MICHELLE LUJAN GRISHAM of New Mexico, and Mr. BEN RAY LUJAN of New Mexico):

H.R. 3085. A bill to award a Congressional Gold Medal, collectively, to American military personnel who fought in defense of Bataan, Corregidor, Guam, Wake Island, and the Philippine Archipelago between December 7, 1941, and May 10, 1942, and who died or were imprisoned by the Japanese military in the Philippines, Japan, Korea, Manchuria, Wake Island, and Guam from April 9, 1942, until September 2, 1945, in recognition of their personal sacrifice and service to their country; to the Committee on Financial Services, and in addition to the Committee on House Administration, for a period to be subsequently determined by the Speaker, in each case for consideration of such provisions as fall within the jurisdiction of the committee concerned.

By Mr. PERLMUTTER (for himself, Mr. BRIDENSTINE, and Ms. EDDIE BERNICE JOHNSON of Texas):

H.R. 3086. A bill to improve understanding and forecasting of space weather events, and for other purposes; to the Committee on Science, Space, and Technology, and in addition to the Committees on Armed Services, Intelligence (Permanent Select), Foreign Affairs, and Transportation and Infrastructure, for a period to be subsequently determined by the Speaker, in each case for consideration of such provisions as fall within the jurisdiction of the committee concerned.

By Mr. SENSENBRENNER (for himself and Ms. LOFGREN):

H.R. 3087. A bill to provide for the admission to the United States of certain Tibetans; to the Committee on the Judiciary.